

STATEMENT by.....Sigourney SMITH (gravedigger)  
made to Mr. Neilson and Mr. Thompson on the steps  
of his house on October 29, 1926, about 5:45 P.M.

*Re Mrs. Gibson*  
I went to bed soon after dinner on the evening of Thursday, September 14th, 1922, having had a few drinks on the way home, and heard no shots or other noises that night.

Going to my work I regularly walk down De Russey's lane to Easton Avenue and then to the end of the trolley by the vocational school and did not follow a course which would take me anywhere near the spot where the bodies were found.

One morning in November 1922 I did not feel well and did not go to work. About 10:30 A.M. Mrs. Gibson rattled the blinds on the back window and attracted my attention. She wore a man's overcoat with the collar turned up and a man's hat and said she had come to the house by a roundabout way across the fields, going about two miles. She said she wanted to warn me not to say anything about what happened on the night of Thursday, September 14th, 1922. I asked her why she was warning me because I knew nothing about what did happen on that night.

She asked me if Mrs. Fraley was there and, as she was lying down, I said: "No, she wasn't around."

This is the same story I have told in Somerville although they seem to think I should know more.

Sigourney Smith was questioned as to whether or not his wife or mother-in-law had heard any shots or knew anything concerning the matter or whether he had heard them talk about knowing anything. He claims that they did not hear any shots and knew nothing about the affair.

He was further questioned in regard to whether there had been any boarders in the Fraley home at the time of the murder. He said that that was all false information; that he was the only person who was a boarder with the Fraleys at the time, he having since married the Fraley girl.

He also told who the near residents were to the Phillips farmhouse, who were the following five:

Grace Edwards and Mr. Stryker, who occupied the only house on Easton Avenue between De Russey's lane and the vocational school.

The Valentines, who lived on Easton Avenue immediately west of De Russey's lane.